of 13 land customs stations into integrated check post along India's border with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Nepal;

if so, whether decision was taken at the inter ministerial meeting with the Minister of External Affairs attended by Home Minister and Minister of State for Commerce;

whether the project had been approved by the Committee on Security in November, 2007 but Government had to decide on the route of funding; and

if so, by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) The Cabinet Committee on Security has accorded its approval for setting up of 13 Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) along India's border with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Nepal as a plan scheme under XI Five Year Plan.

(b) and c) While granting approval for the scheme, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) directed that the best elements of Public Private Partnership (PPP) Model be integrated suitably in the proposal. However, after scrutiny of the proposal at various levels it was noted that to begin with the phase-I of the project may be implemented entirely with Government funding in view of the sovereign functions and government involved in the functioning of proposed ICPs. Accordingly, in the meeting chaired by the External Affairs Minister on 24.12.2007 and attended by the HM and Minister of State for Commerce, it was decided that the four ICPs under Priority 1 *i.e.,* (i) Attari/Wagah, (ii) Raxaul, (iii) Moreh and (iv) Petrapole should be implemented totally with the Government funds as against Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) Model. Suitable follow up action accordingly is being taken for obtaining the approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

(d) The construction of ICPs will be taken up as a plan scheme in the XI Five Year Plan. A provision of Rs. 35 crore has been made in the budget of the next financial year *i.e.,* 2008-09 for the purpose. The total assessment of the financial requirement firming up of project cost and completion of procedural formalities are underway and accordingly action will be made to obtain budgetary provision in the XI plan. M/s Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) has been engaged for the initial consultation and for the preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) and Detailed Engineering Report (DER). The procedural formalities are being taken to start the project.

Solution of traffic mess in the capital

2072. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that private corporate houses dealing in the manufacture of cars have been directed to study the traffic mess in the capital and suggest solution to ease traffic congestion;

if so, the details in this regard;

whether it is also a fact that 40 per cent of the vehicles plying in Delhi are from neighbouring States causing congestion on roads; and

if so, the steps being taken to park heavy duty vehicles coming from neighbouring States on borders to control congestion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by Delhi Police and Transport Department, Government of NCT of Delhi, no such directions were issued.

No such data is available to substantiate that 40 per cent of the vehicles, which ply in Delhi are from neighbouring states.

Does not arise.

Inadequate Medical facilities to security forces on IB

†2073. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that the medical facilities being provided to the security forces deployed for protecting the borders of the country is being inadequate;

whether it is also a fact that non-availability of such a facility to the personnel of the security forces particularly that of the Border Security Force (BSF) is causing a lot of resentment among them; and

if not, the details of the medical facilities being provided to the personnel of the BSF deployed at the remote and far flung border-areas like that of Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Medical facilities have been provided to the Border Guarding Forces (BGFs) as per the authorisation which is reviewed from time to time. All BSF battalions deployed on the International Border (IB), including those in Tripura, are having 10-bedded unit hospitals with adequate medical facilities alongwith an ambulance. A SO-bedded Composite Hospital is functioning at Agartala, that has a specialized Malaria Cell in view of its high incidence. All Border Out Posts (BOPs) in Tripura are sufficiently equipped with emergency medicines to diagnose, and provide first aid, in PF Malaria cases by use of Rapid Diagnostic Kits (RDK). Any case reported with high fever and suspected to be malaria is evacuated to the unit hospital at Battalion Headquarter for further treatment and management. The Unit medical officers posted in the BSF units are also visiting BOPs regularly.

Framing law or rules for protection of witnesses

2074. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

whether it is **a** fact that 37 per cent people fear for severe harassment in going to witness box in courts with the result that the guilty/criminals are not being punished and are set free;

whether Government proposes to frame any law or rules for protection of witnesses;

if so, the details thereof; and

if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.